

What is claimed is:

1. A multimedia mailbox system, comprising:

5 a) a message store for storing multimedia messages;
and

b) conversion means for converting messages in one
medium to messages in another medium, said
10 conversion means being sensitive to the type of
target device being used to access the stored
message.

15 2. A system according to claim 1 wherein said conversion
means includes at least two selected from the group
consisting of a text to speech converter, a speech to
text converter, and a fax to text converter.

20 3. A system according to claim 1 further comprising
means for determining the type of target device being
used to access the stored message.

25 4. A system according to claim 1 further comprising
means for summarizing message contents based on the type
of target device being used to access the stored message.

5. A mailbox system, comprising:

a) a message store for storing text messages;

5 and

b) means for summarizing the message content of a
stored text message that operates as a function of
the type of target device being used to access the
stored text message.

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6. A system according to claim 5 wherein said means for
summarizing is operative to summarize a stored message
based on a predefined set of target device related
parameters.

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7. A system according to claim 6 wherein said predefined
set of target device related parameters includes target
device display size.

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8. A system according to claim 6 wherein said predefined
set of target device related parameters includes target
device buffer size.

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9. A system as set forth in claim 5 wherein said target device is a mobil device.

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10. A system as set forth in claim 9 wherein said mobil device is a pager.

10 11. A system as set forth in claim 9 wherein said mobil device is a PDA.

12. A system as set forth in claim 9 wherein said mobil
15 device is a cell phone.

13. A method for managing a multimedia mailbox system,
comprising the steps of:

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a) storing multimedia messages in a mailbox; and

b) converting messages in one medium to messages in
another medium, said conversion means being

25 sensitive to the type of target device being used to
access the stored message.

14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said step of
converting messages includes utilizing at least two
selected from the group consisting of a text to speech
5 converter, a speech to text converter, and a fax to text
converter.

15. A method according to claim 13 further comprising
10 determining the type of target device being used to
access the stored message.

16. A method according to claim 13 further comprising
15 the step of summarizing message contents based on the
type of target device being used to access the stored
message.

20 17. A method for managing a mailbox system, comprising
the steps of:

a) storing text messages in a mailbox; and

25 b) summarizing the message content of a stored text
message operates as a function of the type of
target device being used to access the stored
text message.

18. A method according to claim 17 wherein said step of
summarizing is operative to summarize a stored message
based on a predefined set of target device related
5 parameters.

19. A method according to claim 18 wherein said
predefined set of target device related parameters
10 includes target device display size.

20. A method according to claim 18 wherein said
predefined set of target device related parameters
15 includes target device buffer size.